(e) and (f) Malnutrition among children is a contributory factor in deaths among children. Steps currently undertaken by the Government to control malnutrition among children are:—

(i) Exclusive breastfeeding for first six months of life.

(ii) Complementary feeding initiated from 6 months of age.

(iii) Iron folic acid supplementation.

(iv) Vitamin A supplementation.

(v) Mid Day Meal Programme.

(vi) Supplementary nutrition as under Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDSS).

Conversion of medical colleges into hospitals

1678. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to connect all medical colleges situated in the capitals of the States in the country in the shape of Safdarjung Hospital and Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital of Delhi with the foreign aid to avoid the inconvenience caused to the patients of all the States; and

(b) if so, by when and if not, the specific reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. At present, there is no such proposal with the Government.

TB Control Programme in Karnataka

1679. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts covered under Revised National TB Control Programme in Karnataka;

(b) the percentage of reduction in the death rate in Karnataka after the implementation of this programme;